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April 28, 2003

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Our Reference: 9351-88

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL 37 CFR 1.102

The Commissioner of Patents
& Trademarks
Washington, D.C.
USA 20231

Dear Sir:

Re: United States Patent Application No. 10/024,539
For: METHOD AND APPARTUS FOR BY-PRODUCT REMOVAL IN A
HYDROGEN GENERATION SYSTEM
Filed: December 21, 2001
Inventors: Ali Rusta-Sallehy et al.

Applicants hereby petition for this application to be made special, in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.102(b) and (c). More specifically, applicants refer to MPEP 708.02, §VI.

This invention is concerned with fuel cell technology. Many authorities now recognize that development of fuel cell technology is key to reducing energy consumption, and making better use of existing fossil fuels, eg. natural gas and petroleum. This was recently recognized in President Bush's State of the Union Speech in which he announced a 1.2 billion dollar FreedomCAR and fuel cell initiative to develop hydrogen-powered fuel cells. As he noted in the speech, one of the intentions of this initiative is to "...reverse America's growing dependence on foreign oil by developing the technology needed for commercially viable hydrogen-powered fuel cells".

please send your reply to

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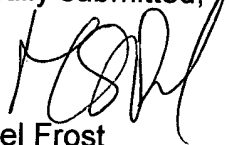
The present invention is directly concerned with this technology and this initiative. More specifically, this invention is concerned with chemical hydride systems. One key issue with hydrogen-powered fuel cells for automotive and other applications is the storage and supply of hydrogen. Chemical hydride systems offer the potential for storing significant quantities of hydrogen in a compact and efficient manner. In contrast, to store hydrogen in gaseous form is difficult. To store significant quantity of gaseous hydrogen requires extremely high pressures and development of exotic pressure vessel technology.

Accordingly, it is submitted that this invention clearly falls in both Category A and B of MPEP 708.02, §VI, since it relates to the discovery or development of energy resources (Category A) and to the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy and resources (Category B).

Accordingly, grant of the necessary Petition to Make Special and prompt examination of this application is requested.

It is further noted that, for this application, applicants submitted an information disclosure statement setting out all the art presently known to the applicants.

Respectfully submitted,



H. Samuel Frost
Registration No. 31,696
/t

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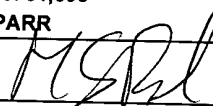
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| | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number | 10/024,539 |
| | Filing Date | December 21, 2001 |
| | First Named Inventor | Ali Rusta-Sallehy |
| | Group Art Unit | 1745 |
| | Examiner Name | N/A |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | 9351-88 |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| Remarks | | |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|---|
| Firm or Individual name | H. Samuel Frost Registration No. 31,696 BERESKIN & PARR |
| Signature |  |
| Date | April 28, 2003 |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING | | | |
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